

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A seal for a guide of a cover panel of a vehicle body panel, comprising:

a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side ~~adapted~~ for attachment to a vehicle component and a sealing side; and

a sliding strip mounted on the resilient sealing profile wherein the resilient sealing profile has two protruding portions with the sliding strip being disposed between the two protruding portions and being recessed towards the reverse side with respect to the two protruding portions in an unstressed state.

2. (Currently Amended) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip is attached on the sealing side of the resilient sealing profile.

3. (Currently Amended) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip has a hardness that is greater than a hardness of the resilient sealing profile.

4. (Currently Amended) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip is accommodated in a form-locking manner in the resilient sealing profile and protrudes from at least one sealing surface on the resilient sealing profile.

5. (Currently Amended) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip is recessed from at least one sealing surface on the sealing side when the seal is in the an-unstressed state.

6. (Currently Amended) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the resilient sealing profile is a closed hollow profile.

7. (Currently Amended) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sealing side is situated opposite the reverse side.

8. (Currently Amended) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the resilient sealing profile has a B-shaped cross-section with the two protruding portions forming ~~having~~ two bulbous sealing surfaces, and wherein the sliding strip is disposed between the two bulbous sealing surfaces.

9. (Currently Amended) A sealing system for a guide of a cover panel of an openable vehicle body panel, comprising:

a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side ~~adapted to be attached for attachment~~ to a vehicle and a sealing side, wherein the resilient sealing profile has at least one sealing surface forming a protruding portion;

a sliding strip mounted on the sealing side of the resilient sealing profile distanced from the protruding portion; and

a connecting member that contacts the sliding strip and is spaced away from ~~the said~~ at least one sealing surface.

10. (Original) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the sliding strip has a hardness that is greater than a hardness of the resilient sealing profile.

11. (Currently Amended) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the sliding strip is accommodated in a form-locking manner in the resilient sealing profile and protrudes from the ~~said~~ at least one sealing surface.

12. (Currently Amended) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the sliding strip is recessed from the ~~said~~ at least one sealing surface on the sealing side when the resilient sealing profile ~~seal~~ is in an unstressed state.

13. (Currently Amended) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the resilient sealing profile is a closed hollow profile.

14. (Currently Amended) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the resilient sealing profile has a B-shaped cross-section having two bulbous sealing surfaces, and wherein the sliding strip is disposed between the two bulbous sealing surfaces.

15. (Currently Amended) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the connecting member has an extension that contacts only the sliding strip.

16. (Original) The sealing system as recited in Claim 15, wherein the extension has a wedge-shaped configuration.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, further comprising~~ A sealing system for a guide of a cover panel of an openable vehicle body panel, comprising:

a first resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a vehicle and a sealing side, wherein the first resilient sealing profile has at least one sealing surface;

a sliding strip mounted on the sealing side of the first resilient sealing profile;

a connecting member that contacts the sliding strip and is spaced away from the at least one sealing surface; and

a second resilient sealing profile that is pressed against the first resilient sealing profile to provide the sealing function, wherein the connecting member protrudes between the first resilient sealing profile and the second resilient sealing profile.

18. (Currently Amended) A vehicle body panel system, comprising:

a panel opening;

at least one cover panel that is slidable and tiltable to selectively cover the panel opening;

at least one ~~lateral~~-longitudinal guide that guides the said-at least one cover panel;

at least one connecting member disposed between the at least one longitudinal guide and the said-at least one cover panel; and

a seal that at least partially covers said at least one longitudinal guide, the seal having

a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side ~~adapted to be attached for attachment~~ to a vehicle and a sealing side, wherein the resilient sealing profile has at least one sealing surface, and

a sliding strip mounted on the sealing side of the resilient sealing profile,

wherein ~~the said~~ at least one connecting member contacts the sliding strip and is spaced away from ~~the said~~ at least one sealing surface to compress the resilient sealing profile when the at least one cover panel is displaced.

19. (Currently Amended) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the at least one cover panel is movable vertically with respect to ~~a the~~ vehicle panel and can be displaced over a non-movable, stationary roof segment.

20. (Currently Amended) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 19, wherein the seal covers at least a segment of ~~the said~~ at least one longitudinal guide that runs beside the non-movable, stationary roof segment, wherein the seal seals off an area corresponding to the non-movable, stationary roof segment when the at least one cover panel is not displaced.

21. (Currently Amended) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 19, wherein the at least one connecting member protrudes from ~~the said~~ at least one longitudinal guide along the seal up to the at least one cover panel when the at least one cover panel is raised up and displaced over the non-movable, stationary roof segment, panel, thereby contacting the sliding strip and being spaced away from ~~the said~~ at least one sealing ~~profile~~ surface.

22. (Currently Amended) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 19, further comprising a second resilient sealing profile that is pressed against the resilient sealing profile to provide ~~a the~~-sealing function, wherein the at least one connecting member protrudes between the resilient sealing profile and the second resilient sealing profile.

23. (New) A seal for a guide of a cover panel of a vehicle body panel, comprising:
- a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a vehicle component and a sealing side defining a sealing surface; and
- a sliding strip mounted on the resilient sealing profile wherein the sliding strip defines a sliding surface that is different than the sealing surface.
24. (New) The seal as recited in claim 23 wherein the sliding strip protrudes from the resilient sealing profile when the seal is in a compressed condition and wherein the sliding strip is recessed within the resilient sealing profile when the seal is an uncompressed condition.
25. (New) The seal as recited in claim 24 wherein the sliding strip includes a first portion received within a recess formed within the resilient sealing profile and a second portion extending transversely to the first portion, the second portion defining the sliding surface.